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According to International Palent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) F42D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category * 1 χ EP 0 281 722 A (NOBEL KEMI AB) 14 September 1988 (1988-09-14) column 3, line 35 -column 4, line 24 column 4, line 53 -column 5, line 19; figures 1,2,4,5 2 Α 1 US 5 375 524 A (LARSON LARRY J) Α 27 December 1994 (1994-12-27) column 2, line 64 -column 3, line 21; figures 9-12 2 GB 2 243 500 A (CSIR) Α 30 October 1991 (1991-10-30) * Abrégé * figures 2,3 X ·· Patent family members are fisted in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C: Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document reterring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *8* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 28/10/2003 20 October 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Palent Office, P.B. 5818 Palentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Van der Plas, J

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